

PLAN TO ABOLISH U. S. COMPTROLLER

New Administration Said to
Have Step in Mind as Mat-
ter of Economy.

OLD POWERS ABSORBED

Federal Reserve Board Has
Wider Scope and Duplicates
Much of the Work.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau.

There are indications that the office of Comptroller of the Treasury, instituted in the early days of the Government, will be abolished by the new Administration as a first step toward bureau consolidation and economy.

Under the national bank act the Comptroller of the Currency is charged with supervision of all national banks and of the issuance of national bank and Federal Reserve currency.

Since the creation of the Federal Reserve Board with wider power there has been much duplication of work and something of a conflict in jurisdiction.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon has before him a recommendation by the Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve Board, composed of the presidents of the various reserve banks, strongly urging abolition of the office of Comptroller of the Currency as superfluous. The Comptroller employs all of the national bank examiners and has a large force of assistants and clerks in Washington, numbering several hundred. They are paid by direct appropriation from the Treasury. If their work is taken over by the Federal Reserve Board salaries and other expenses will be paid from earnings of the reserve system, which have been so great recently as to practically cover the full reserve allowed under the law.

Recommendation for the abolition of the office was first made by the Advisory Council of the Reserve Board a year ago. When the new council convened in Washington in February of this year it promptly renewed the recommendation at its meeting.

At present the office of Comptroller is vacant. John Skilton Williams resigned and left the Treasury on March 2. Since that date Mr. Williams's office has been closed and the door locked. His personal assistants have moved to other offices. Work of the Comptroller's office is under the direction of Deputy Comptroller Thomas Kane.

DRUG BILLS LINKED WITH UNDERWORLD

Proposed Legislation at Al-
bany Assailed as Forcing
Addicts Still Lower.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau.

Underworld traffic in drugs and great suffering for addicts would result from the passage of bills now pending, legislators were told today at a public hearing. The addict who now goes to his family physician in his fight against drugs either would be driven to the underworld or to expensive private institutions, it was declared.

Charges were made that specialists in treating drug addicts were exploiting the sufferers by trying to force them to go to sanitariums. Dr. William P. Healy, speaking for the New York County Medical Association, maintained that addiction is a habit broken by will and favored the bills. Dr. Alfred C. Prentice of the same society supported the measure.

Cures administered were described by the Rev. F. W. Stait, a missionary, and Miss Edith Brown of New York. Miss Brown is a victim of addiction to medication administered for an ailment. She said that as a result of taking a "cure" at Bellevue Hospital she had lost all her teeth and been left a physical and nervous wreck, suffering from Bright's disease, heart and kidney trouble.

"The worst thing that could have happened was the registration rule enforced by Health Commissioner Copeland of New York, which drove addicts, good and bad, to stand in line before the Narcotic Commissioner's office, the objects of curiosity by occupants of 'rubberneck' wagons," Judge Cornelius J. Collins, of the Court of Special Sessions, said. "If this body enacts legislation restricting treatment of addicts to institutions it will increase under-world traffic and bring suffering to thousands of respectable users of morphine who need the attention of their family physician."

Dr. James A. Rooney charged "drug cure" institution proprietors with being behind legislation to bar physicians from treatment of addicts. He added: "All of us know who is behind bills barring physicians from treatment of addicts and involuntarily committing these addicts to institutions. It is the institutional proprietors who get wealthy at the expense of their patients. It is time the medical profession took cognizance of this fact. Addiction is a disease and can only be cured by treatment as a disease."

Dr. John P. Davin, of the New York Medical Association, declared: "The ruling of the New York City Health Department has brought great suffering to respectable addicts and has made them the prey of charlatans and peddlers because physicians have been afraid to administer to the patients. It is time the clique of institutional physicians was exposed."

WALES IN GLASGOW; UNEMPLOYED PARADE

Prince Declines Public Din-
ner, Which Labor Opposed.

GLASGOW, March 8.—The Prince of Wales, who is visiting Glasgow, to-day was accorded an enthusiastic reception. During the day there was a parade of unemployed, who carried banners with such mottoes as "We want the 1914 Pensions" and "The Prince Has Refused Our Dinner. We have No Option." The last inscription referred to the Prince having declined to attend a public dinner in his honor owing to opposition by the Laborites in the Town Council to the expenditure of funds for such a function.

A despatch from London February 21 said the Laborite members of the Town Council of Glasgow condemned the spending of public money on the feasting of royalty when hundreds of families were starving.

Berlin Ignores Invasion for Race Track Betting

BERLIN, March 7 (delayed).—Although all Germany knew allied troops were about to advance in German territory thousands gathered at the race track here to-day for the opening of the season. Snow and cold weather failed to keep them away. Bets laid at the track on the trotting races amounted to 2,000,000 marks, and it was stated that wagers placed downtown totaled an additional 3,000,000 marks. A consignment of eleven thoroughbred trotting mares from America was entered for the day's events. It was declared at the track that all records for betting on the running races had been eclipsed.

GERMAN WORKER IS PRE-WAR PRODUCER

Continued from First Page.

employment and with increased production.

In one respect living is better for the workers to-day than in the "turmoil and cabbage winter" of 1917. Then more food was not to be bought. To-day they can buy as much as they can afford and they can afford to eat more than then. But to-day they cannot say over their potatoes as they did over their cabbage soup, "After the war everything will be better." For next year and the year after, and for all the years of the vista of their lives, they see no improvement.

And to this prospect their response in the main has been resignation.

Labor Solidly Organized.

This fatalism is the unknown factor in the German political equation and of prime importance in an estimate of Germany's business future. German labor is the most solidly organized political army in the world. Fourteen million Germans belong to labor unions (compared with something more than four million in America) and German unions for decades have been political in nature as well as economic. At the last national elections the various Socialist parties polled nearly 44 per cent. of the 26,000,000 votes cast.

So when a reaction surges over the country it is in spite of the strength, the quite obvious strength, of labor. No government could survive if 44 per cent. of its voters, and these the industrial and agricultural workers, united to overthrow it. How is it that Germany has not succumbed to Bolshevism?

One reason is apparent. Bolshevism has not convinced German labor as a whole primarily because it has failed in Russia. Russia was an allurement while the soviet was enhanced by mystery, and the attendance of the German independent socialists last summer at the Moscow International ended a spell. This appears true to-day, despite the consequences of that congress, which left Germany with the largest number of communist voters of any country in the world. To be sure, these are hypothetical voters. In the independent socialist referendum on the Moscow issue considerably over 60 per cent. voted for the Moscow faction. Were the ratio applicable to national election figures of last year (which is only an assumption), this would mean that 2,750,000 socialists have changed to communists, who, with the

original communist party, would show a polling strength of over 3,200,000.

Chances of Bolshevism.

But no matter how many communist voters can be estimated, now the Prussian elections are past, the question really is: Are these powerful enough to impose Bolshevism on Germany? Could a group of even 25 per cent. of the nation's workers, standing quite apart from the rest in their creed, carry through a successful revolution?

In Russia even fewer succeeded. But Russia is not to be compared with Germany. A German dictatorship would not be over a majority of illiterate peasants, but over a politically schooled and acutely hostile society, a third of whose numbers were workers. The real ally of Lenin and Trotsky—the apathy of the masses—is not waiting to cooperate with Levy and Daumig in Germany.

This difference does not remove the probability of an attempted revolution. The sudden importance which the communists have gained makes it, on the contrary, more than likely that the effort has to be ventured. The resignation of most German labor sets off the zealous and desperate quality of German communism, and it is deliberately planning a revolution when the best political wisdom among labor leaders is that failure is sure to follow. The plans are laid. The Rote Fahne regularly publishes flaming appeals which an American jury would condemn as treasonable, and Herr Levy admits that he takes orders from Moscow on even such a point as whether he is to continue in office as chairman of the German party.

It belongs to the daily routine in Germany to read the exposures of communist plots—just as it does to read exposures in the radical press of Orghesch and Junker conspiracies. Thanks to the bitterness of German politics, much of this evidence, from both camps, is incontestably false. But beyond doubt the leaders of both extremes have plans and equipment and are only awaiting the opportune hour.

Revolution Ultimate Aim.

It lies in the nature of the communist cause that a revolution must eventually be tried. Moscow is assumed to have abandoned hopes of realizing a reconstructive programme in Russia without the cooperation of the proletariat in other lands, primarily in Germany. And the German communist leaders who acquired a following close to three millions by adopting the revolution and the alliance with Russia as their main aims cannot keep the party intact without attempting to realize these pledges.

The majority of German workers have no ears for Moscow temptations. "If it came to a choice between the Hohenzollerns and the soviets," a labor secretary in the Ruhr told me, "I would choose the Hohenzollerns. William II, despite his faults, gave us social legislation superior to that in other countries, and labor in Germany before the war was better off than elsewhere." The speaker was not a socialist, but surely many socialists would accept the same alternative.

The retirement of the majority socialists from the government coalition last autumn found this chief labor body in great need of repairing its political fences. The party had practically no assets, and it had incalculable liabilities to show for its two years' experience with actual power. Noske had thoroughly estranged radical labor by ruthless suppression, and no socialization, no net

wage increase, no general welfare had resulted from German labor's first experiment in ministerial responsibility.

Not Separated by Dogma.

To-day the majority and independent socialists are not separated by dogma, but altogether by the spoiled record of the majority wing. The independents have not compromised with "capitalism"; that is the one difference.

The two parties, after the revolution, stood before the people with a theory of social organization which appeared to many Germans to merit the hope of a defeated and distracted nation. It is too soon to sound the death of socialism because of two years of socialist failure. Political ideas are not eliminated so quickly from millions of minds. But it must be said in truth that for most Germans the aspirations for socialism have either died or been deferred.

An effort was made last fall and this winter to focus labor's ambition upon socialization of the coal mines. Two years ago the campaign, had it been fought with a rush, might have been won and Parliament might have been stampeded. But socialization is not now an idea to conjure with in Germany. Another idea is, namely, money.

The miners and the factory workers want food and clothing, not the transfer of a title to property. If they had their money and could eat and dress once more like the selves of peace times they might then turn with some enthusiasm to weigh theories of social partnership. No one tries now to tell the miners that State owned mines mean immediate higher wages, or to tell the factory employees that they mean more work or better pay until a much later time. And it has penetrated the mind of the workers that socialization may possibly reduce production for the present and so increase the cost of living, instead of bringing quick, tangible benefits.

New View of Socialization.

The mine operators have understood how to obstruct the labor campaign. The socialization commission began its laborious studies after the revolution; it brought in two reports (Rathenau and Lederer). Both reports were then tabled and a new

commission named. Eventually two more reports were made, and then the majority or Stinnes report was committed for revision to an enlarged commission. During these maneuvers the conception of socialization as a panacea had changed. Not long ago twelve unions in Ruhr, impatient over the delay in realizing socialization, instructed their leaders to draw up individually twelve projects. Only three reports were made, and these did not pertain to socialization but to the general political and economic troubles of labor. The large Catholic unions in the Ruhr are officially only lukewarm for socialization, and openly deplore its becoming a political issue instead of a scientific evolution.

And yet socialization is kept as the one constructive measure of German socialist dogma, though the rank and file have lost faith in its urgency. And German labor leaders, in comparison with theorists in other countries, have worked out a faulty device. Their plan for socialization is in the main a mere transcription of Marxian dialectics with utter disregard for social psychology and the modern industrial horizon.

Issues Born of Reaction.

So Social-Democratic parties are reverting to their former function of oppositionism. Here they apparently have an active work to do. The rise of the reaction brings issues before the country on which labor has no voice and uncompromising views, the traditional monarchy, the repeal of the eight hour law and repudiation of the peace treaty.

The eight hour day, one of the few important victories of the socialist coalition regime might be temporarily modified with labor's consent under special circumstances, but there is no mood to relinquish it as a bill of rights. The employers, on the other hand, have no shrift for the law and insist on its abolition. "If Germany is to regain her place in the world," the manufacturer will say, "labor must go back to work on the former schedule." But here the Socialist parties are certain to regain prestige and to keep as special advocates of labor claims the support they forfeited as fundamental reformers.

Militarism is so intensely obnoxious to German labor that it is in-

credible that a monarch could be restored which had its strength in a conscript army, and the general strike during the Kapp putsch was a vivid demonstration which may have taught the conservatives a lesson. But if it did not, and if they ever should be in a position deliberately to provoke the Entente to the point of war they would find labor united against them, and aggressively so.

But the German labor movement, aside from the communist wing, languishes to-day in negatives. And labor itself is dulled by poverty and disappointment. Habits of work are reasserting themselves, even though the work does not compensate. It lies within the bounds of possibility that German labor will wear the yoke of impoverishment all through the next years, as it has accepted it now. It might even be that the reparations sum decided on in Paris can be paid to the Entente out of the difference, represented in cash, between the prewar standard of life and the present one of German workers. Politically, labor has lost its courage, and the initiative in Germany has reverted to the men who are determined not to sacrifice the earnings of their class to pay a national debt.

The article of this series to be published to-morrow will deal with living conditions among the poor.

SOCIALIST ALDERMEN BUSY.

The Socialist Aldermen introduced a resolution yesterday calling upon the Legislature and Congress to take steps for the opening of trade relations with Soviet Russia. The resolution covered other Socialistic proposals and undertook to have the Board of Aldermen urge "the workers of the city of New York to perfect and strengthen their organization as the most effective means of protecting their interest as members of the working class." The resolution was referred to the committee on general welfare.

R.R. READY FOR TIME CHANGES

The Long Island Railroad Company will accommodate itself to whatever disposition is made in regard to daylight saving by the city or State governments. It was announced yesterday. If a form of daylight saving is put into effect in this city, either clocks or schedules will be changed in conformity with the plan. Last year clocks were changed.

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2 Ermine Wraps, Full length.....	\$900	4 Kolinsky Wraps, Full length.....	\$500
1 Broadtail Wrap, Full length, with Mink Collar.....	\$900	6 Natural American Mink Wraps, Full length, various models.....	\$900
1 Broadtail Wrap, Full length, with deep cape collar of Natural German Fitch.....	\$900	1 Taupe Caracul Wrap, a very beautiful and unusual model.....	\$650
1 Natural White Broadtail Wrap, with Natural German Fitch collar and stole fronts; a very unusual and beautiful evening wrap.....	\$1800	1 Baby Lamb Wrap, with Natural Gray Krimmer collar, cuffs and stole fronts.....	\$500
3 Broadtail Wraps, Full length, European dyed skins of the finest quality and character; 2 wraps with Chinchilla collars and 1 wrap with Russian Sable collar.....	\$2800	3 Baby Lamb Wraps, Full length.....	\$300
1 Natural Russian Sable Wrap Full length This garment will be reduced \$100 every day until sold.....	\$4,800	37 Natural Gray Siberian Squirrel Wraps and Coats, some very dark, some clear blue; lengths from 36-inch to full length.....	\$300
31 Mole Wraps, Full length.....	\$300	1 Chinchilla Wrap Full Length—Fine clear blue skins. This garment could not be made today for double the price, and will be reduced \$100 every day until sold.....	\$4,800
13 Alaska Seal Coats, 40-inch lengths.....	\$500	1 Genuine Beaver Coat, 36-inch length.....	\$375
69 Hudson Seal Wraps, Full length, various models, many of which have been adapted for next season's sample lines.....	\$300	1 Natural Nutria Coat, Child's 12-year size.....	\$135
1 Hudson Seal Coat, 36-inch length, Genuine Beaver collar and cuffs.....	\$175	7 Brown Panther Coats, 40-inch length, Dyed Raccoon collars and cuffs.....	\$100
1 Hudson Seal Coat, 36-inch length, Natural Australian Opossum collar and cuffs.....	\$200	15 Natural Muskrat Coats, 36-inch length.....	\$125
1 Hudson Seal Coat, 36-inch length, Taupe Squirrel collar and cuffs.....	\$200	11 French Seal Coats, 36-inch length, with Australian Opossum collars and cuffs.....	\$100
1 Hudson Seal Coat, 36-inch length, Skunk collar and cuffs.....	\$200	31 French Seal Wraps, Full length.....	\$125
61 Hudson Seal Coats, 36-inch length, fine large collars and cuffs of Natural Skunk.....	\$250	10 Black Caracul Coats, 36-inch length.....	\$125
Hudson Seal Coats for Large Women We have about 30 Hudson Seal Coats, extremely large sizes, ranging from 36 to 50 inch lengths; some plain and some with Skunk collars and cuffs.....		29 Natural and Stone Marten Opossum Coats, 36-inch length.....	\$100
23 Natural Raccoon Coats, 36-inch length.....	\$200	2 Chinese Leopard Coats, 36-inch length, with Australian Opossum collar and cuffs.....	\$150
Men's Coats, with collars of Beaver or Otter.....	\$50 and \$75	12 Brown Russian Pony Coats, 36-inch length, with collar of Natural Skunk, Natural Raccoon or Brown Dyed Fitch.....	\$75
BOAS		21 Black Russian Pony Coats, with collar and cuffs of Natural Opossum or Natural Raccoon.....	\$75
FOXES			
Natural White.....	\$75	BOAS	
Natural Blue.....	\$140	Natural Russian CROWN SABLE.....	\$450
Natural Black.....	\$150	Natural Hudson Bay.....	\$50
BOAS		Tipped Hudson Bay.....	\$45
Natural Fisher Small Full Furled Skins, Good Color.....	\$100		
BOAS			
Baum Marten.....	\$30		
BOAS			
Foxes Taupe or Brown.....	\$25		
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Australian Opossum.....	\$8		
BOAS			
Grey Squirrel.....	\$9		
BOAS			
Blue Fox.....	\$75		

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